

Hospice to benefit from sale of new house



COMMUNITY PROJECT: Waipuna Hospice CEO Richard Thurlow (left) and Iain Gleaves of Belvedere Construction Ltd stand on an empty section in The Lakes where a new house will soon be built. Proceeds raised by the sale of the house will go to the hospice.

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A house is to be built in Tauranga for free and then sold for up to an estimated \$400,000 with all the money going to Waipuna Hospice.

The collaborative project between Grasshopper Properties and Belvedere Construction, with help from Cadlab Architecture, will see a three bedroom house built at The Lakes subdivision at Pyes Pa west.

All proceeds raised by the sale of the house will go to Waipuna Hospice.

Grasshopper Properties has donated the section within The

Lakes, which project manager Simon Maxwell said was worth around \$175,000.

The idea began three years ago when Waipuna Hospice approached Grasshopper Properties on ways of raising funds for the organisation. In February 2007, Grasshopper Properties decided to contribute to Waipuna Hospice so transferred the section to the charity.

Mr Maxwell said the company got involved with the project because it believes Waipuna Hospice do a great job for the community.

"We think this is a fantastic cause, we are proud supporters

and we are happy to be involved," he said.

The value of the property is hard to calculate but Waipuna Hospice fundraising manager Trish Rae she was hoping Waipuna Hospice would receive between \$350,000 and \$400,000 when the property is sold early next year.

Belvedere Construction and Cadlab Architecture are donating time and resources to build the home, work on which started this week.

Belvedere has worked with the hospice in the past and commercial manager Iain Gleaves said during that time it became more

aware of the work and services Waipuna offer.

Mr Gleaves said both companies wanted to build an economically-friendly house that was conceptually different from the surrounding houses, but not too different.

"Building a sustainable house is very important and we are committed to using solely local suppliers and to try and create a sense of local ownership," he said.

Other local businesses are also helping out by donating time and resources.

● WHAT THE HOUSE WILL LOOK LIKE — PAGE 3